

# Mapline

*A Publication of the Hermon Dunlap Smith Center for the History of Cartography at the Newberry Library and the Chicago Map Society*

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## Announcing the Chicago Map Society as Co-Publisher of *Mapline*

by Robert A. Holland & James Akerman

From its first issue in 1976, *Mapline* has been the official publication of the Hermon Dunlap Smith Center for the History of Cartography at the Newberry Library, and it has been devoted to advancing knowledge of the history of cartography by reporting events, ideas, and issues in the field. In addition to printing short articles reflecting current research in the field, it has functioned as a bulletin to announce recent acquisitions to the cartographic collections at the Newberry and has kept readers informed of the center's work, publications, and sponsored events. It has also presented brief reports on conferences, exhibitions, and societies and lectures beyond the Newberry. Beginning with this issue, *Mapline* becomes a co-production of the Hermon Dunlap Smith Center for the History of Cartography and the Chicago Map Society. As such, *Mapline* will continue to fill the role outlined above, but will be supplemented by news and other information about the Chicago Map Society. Since this is the inaugural issue of this collaboration, it seems appropriate to begin with a brief history of the Chicago Map Society.

The origins of the Chicago Map Society (CMS) can be traced to an eight-week course on the history of cartography that was taught in 1975 by the Smith Center's first director, David Woodward. A number of students in this class—encouraged by Woodward—began “an association that would cater to the needs of map collectors and other persons with an interest in maps.”<sup>1</sup> The association held its first meeting on January 15, 1976, at which time it was christened the “Chicago Map Society.” The next month, Ronald Decker

drafted a constitution for the society, which was submitted to an acting Board of Directors that was comprised of George Ritzlin, David Woodward, Allen Meyer, Michael Powell, Stanley Balzekas III, and Ronald Decker.<sup>2</sup>

On February 26, 1976, the Chicago Map Society held its first program meeting at the Newberry Library, which was a presentation by Capt. A. Teixeira Da Mota (Director of the National Maritime Library of Portugal) on “The Ancient Cartography of Angola and Mozambique.” Other early presentations included “A Perfect and Absolute Blank: or, What's the Use of Mercator's North Poles and Equators?” by David Woodward; “Never in My Wildest Dreams! The Cartography of the Atlas of Early American History” by Barbara Bartz Petchenik, (Head of Cartographic Services at R. R. Donnelley & Sons); and “Mapping from Space” by Martin Cassidy (Senior Staff Geologist, Amoco International Oil Company). Since then, the CMS has held monthly meetings at the Newberry Library that feature a presentation on a cartographic subject of interest to the Society's membership. These presentations range from the historical (for example, “Ptolemy's Geography and Renaissance Mapmakers”) to explanations of the use of cutting-edge technology in mapping (how, for example, the use of digital methods has enabled mapping on a whole new scale). The CMS also occasionally sponsors field trips to view local private and institutional collections, as well as to learn about other map-related endeavors (for example, work in map conservation).

Early on the CMS instituted two traditions that continue



to this day. The first was a dinner meeting, which was originally hosted by chef (and map collector) Louis Szathmary and his wife at their much-loved restaurant, The Bakery. The second was an annual "Members Night," at which members of the Society would bring maps and map-related items from their own collections to share with the rest of the group. These traditions have now coalesced into a December "Holiday Gala" held at the Newberry.

In addition to its public meetings, other CMS activities have included the publication of a number of directories and books on cartographic topics. A *World Directory of Dealers in Antiquarian Maps* was published in 1977 and again in 1980 (as a revised issue that listed over 600 dealers in thirty-six countries); both editions were edited by George Ritzlin. In 1984, the CMS published *Chicago Mapmakers: Essays on the Rise of the City's Map Trade*, which was edited by Michael P. Conzen; and in 2008, the CMS (in conjunction with the Newberry Library) released *Chicago - Lake Geneva: A 100-Year Road Trip: Retracing the Route of H. Sargent Michaels' 1905 Photographic Guide for Motorists*. The CMS is also committed to the support of worthy endeavors that focus on the study and preservation of maps and related materials, and is a regular supporter of the *History of Cartography Project*, which is a research, editorial, and publishing venture drawing international attention to the history of maps and mapping; the CMS also offers help to the Conservation Department at the Newberry.

The CMS was incorporated in November 1998 as an Illinois non-profit corporation, and was recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)(07) of the Internal Revenue Code in April 1999. In June 2014, the Service recognized the Chicago Map Society as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, which means that contributions to the organization are deductible under Section 170 of the Code. The activities of the CMS are mainly funded by dues and donations, and from a charter membership of fifty-five souls suffering from cartophilia, the CMS annual rolls now number approximately 175 individuals. The CMS is a volunteer organization and has no paid employees, although it does have a service agreement with the Newberry for its administrative work and space.

In sum, the Chicago Map Society is the oldest map society in North America and has held monthly meetings at the Newberry Library in Chicago since 1976. The CMS meets the third Thursday of every month during the academic year (September through June) for a presentation on a cartographic subject of interest to its membership. The only requirement for membership in the CMS is an interest in maps, and membership benefits include a subscription to this publication. The CMS has plans to expand its exempt activities

by commissioning and publishing cartographic studies on a more regular basis, and by increasing its support of exempt ventures dedicated to the study and preservation of maps. Moreover, the Society would like to develop a more robust outreach program to individuals in the Chicago area who are interested in maps. For information about upcoming and past CMS events, CMS publications (and that of its members), information on membership in the CMS, and links to interesting map sites, please visit the CMS website at [www.chicagomapsociety.org](http://www.chicagomapsociety.org). The CMS is delighted to join the Smith Center in the regular publication of Mapline.

## Notes

<sup>1</sup> From a December 19, 1975 letter from David Woodward (Program Director) and George Ritzlin (Acting President of "the society") to students in this class as well as other interested parties.

<sup>2</sup> These individuals also served on the first elected CMS Board of Directors, along with Dennis Allerd, Robert Adelsperger, Mary Beth Beal, Martin Cassidy, Duncan Fitchet, Kenneth Nebenzahl, John Nordish, Marsha Selmer, Harry Stern, and Sabrina Ursery.

<sup>3</sup> In 1986, the CMS published "A Ten-Year Retrospective" on its activities, including a list of all of its programs through 1985. A complete listing of past CMS programs can be found on its website under "Meeting Archives" at <http://www.chicagomapsociety.org/meetings-archive>.

## Fall 2017 Chicago Map Society Calendar

### September 21, 2017:

Richard A. Kohrs: "The Living Globe: An Introduction to Spherical Display Systems"

### October 19, 2017:

Pedro Raposo: "Sky Maps and the Origins of Modern Constellations" This is a joint meeting with the Friends of the Webster Institute.

### November 16, 2017:

Charlie Lunn and Brock Alekna: "The Rockford Map Company: County Plat Books for the Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries."

### December 21, 2017:

Annual Holiday Gala and Members' Show-and-Tell



# Not a Date with an Angel: the Rosaccio World Map of 1597/1647

By Arthur Holzheimer & David Buisseret

The Newberry has a colored copy of the world map by Giuseppe Rosaccio titled *Universale descrizione di tutto il Mondo...*; it is found in the Novacco Collection (plate 1). Rosaccio was a well-known and prolific cartographer of Florence, and this magnificent map, which comes in ten sections, together measuring 108 x 185cm, is regarded as his masterpiece. Prominent on its title, along the top of the map, is the date, “1597” (fig. 1). However, this date does not sit well with the contents of the map, which include, for instance, the “Fretum Lemaire” to the east of the southern end of South

America. Jakob Lemaire (1585-1616) was a Dutch explorer who is known for rounding Cape Horn, and who for a time gave his name to the “Lemaire Strait.” But this was not until 1616, so that his name ought not to be found on a map dated “1597.”

Careful examination of the map’s date by Newberry conservationist Lesa Dowd revealed that the date on the Newberry’s copy of the map had been changed, probably from “1647,” the date of a fresh edition, to “1597.” The “1” and the “7” of our copy are darker and thicker than the “5”

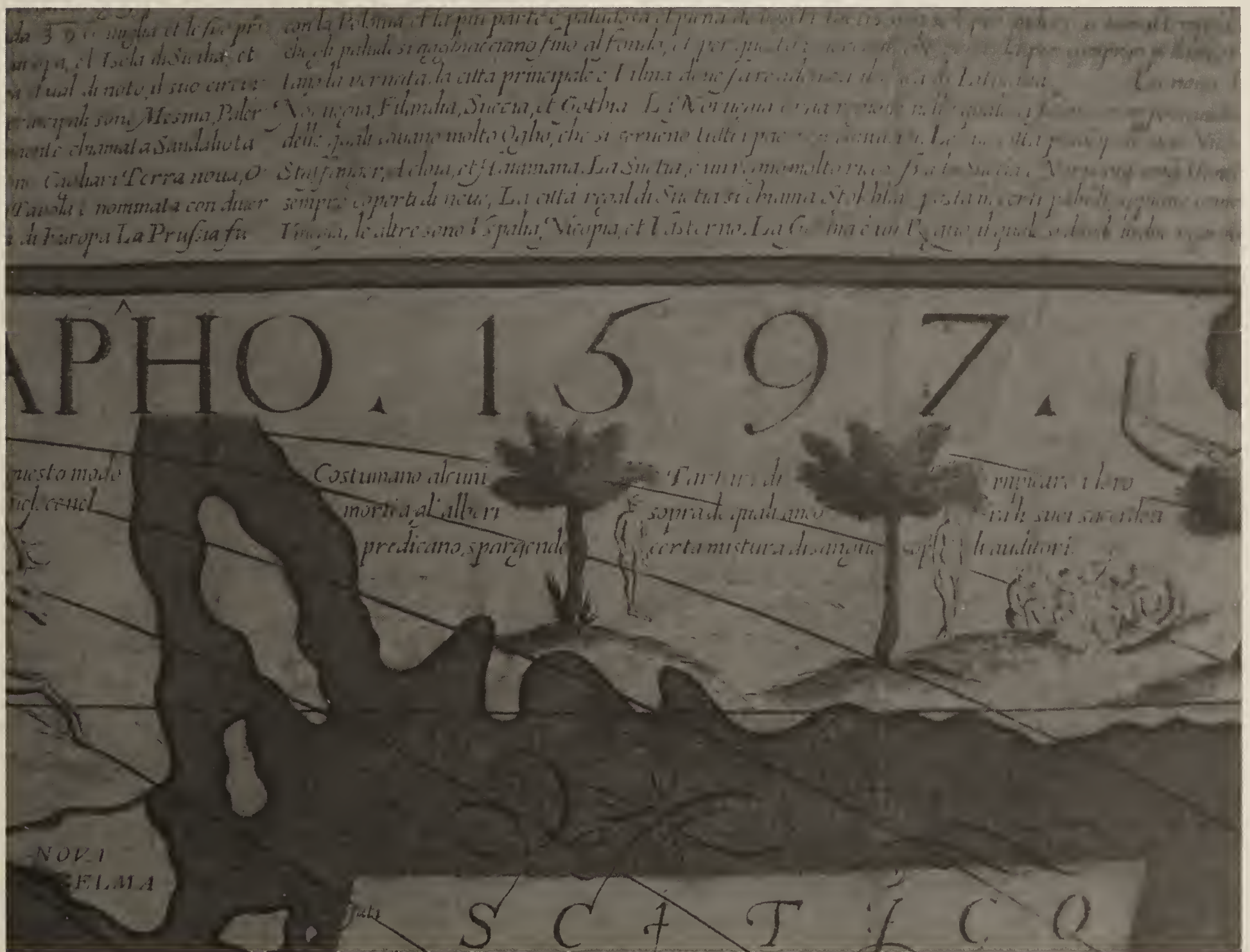


Fig. 1. Detail from Giuseppe Rosaccio, *Universale descrizione di tutto il mondo...* (Venice: 1597/1647), The Newberry Library, Novacco 4F 16.



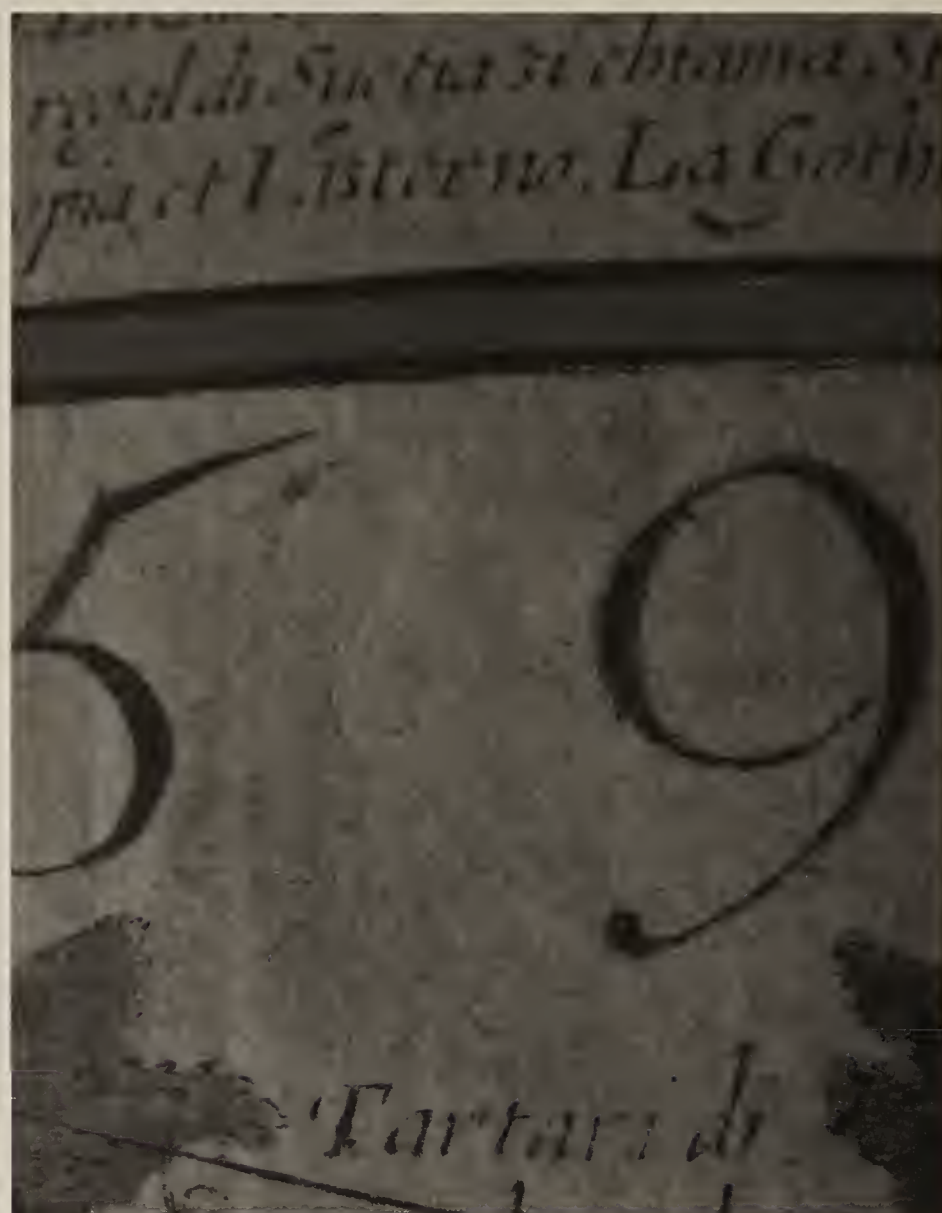


Fig 2. Details from Rosaccio, *Universale descrizione di tutto il mondo...*

and the “9,” a change which, with warning, is visible to the naked eye. It is not clear why this change was made, but it incited us to investigate other copies of the map, which are held at the Library of Congress, the Harry Ransom Center at Austin, Texas, and the Harvard Map Library. These three depositories all have web-sites with highly detailed images of the Rosaccio map, allowing us to make any necessary comparison.

The Library of Congress map also showed the “Fretum Lemaire.” To our surprise, it also bore the date in its title of “1597.” Moreover, even looking with the naked eye at the electronic image of this date, it was possible to see that the “5” and the “9” were lighter and thinner than the “1” and the “7.” Strangely enough, exactly the same was true of the copy of the map now found at the Harry Ransom Center, where it came as part of the collection assembled by the famous New York map dealer, H. P. Kraus. All three copies, at Chicago, at Austin and in Washington, bore an inserted but in fact incorrect date.

This left the copy at the Harvard Map Library, where it had come from the Liechtenstein Map Collection. This time the date “1597” might well have been accurate, since in the

body of the map there was no mention of the “Fretum Lemaire”; indeed, the geography of the southern tip of South America conformed entirely to what might have been expected from a cartographer living before the end of the sixteenth century. So the Harvard copy is surely the first state of the Rosaccio map; moreover, its “1597” date shows no sign of alteration, at any rate to the naked eye.

This left two further copies. One is at the Museum Prins Hendrik in Rotterdam. Here, the catalogue notes that the date “1597” has been changed to “1647,” a baffling move. The sixth copy of which we know is in the Holzheimer Collection, and this copy conforms to the pattern of the copies at Chicago, at Austin and in Washington, with this alteration. Moreover, since (unlike the Newberry copy) it is uncolored, we can very easily discern its characteristics.

How can one account for the change from “1647” to “1597” found in these four copies? It would seem that several early owners had the same idea of antedating their copies of 1647, so as to make them appear to date from the first edition of 1597. One might have suspected the seventeenth-century Venetian publishers, except that each of these alterations is in a slightly different hand.



# Cartographic Reflections on an Overlooked Book

By Gerald Danzer

We missed it. Christopher Norment's *In the Memory of the Map: A Cartographic Memoir* appeared in print in 2012, but escaped our notice until now. Most *Mapline* readers could probably compose similar autobiographical essays based on the specific maps that personally impressed them at various stages of life. Upon reflection we might also examine these maps and the recollections that accompany them to find insights into how we put together our philosophy of life. Certain places, we know, have helped to shape us. "Look at our maps," Norment explains, "They help us understand how we came to be who we are today."

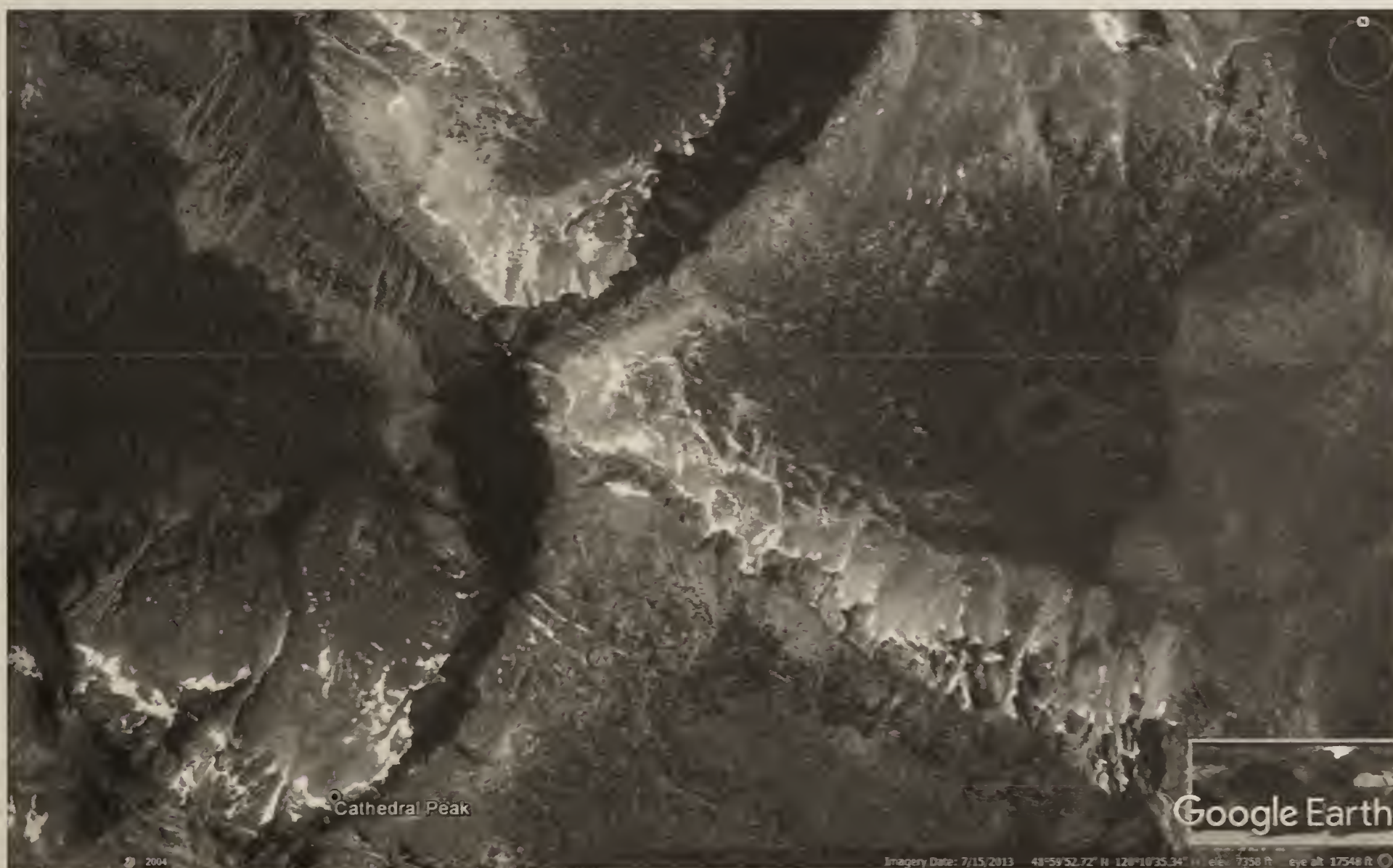
This is a stimulating proposition. Start with the mental map of your childhood world, proceed through the collections of free highway maps that many of us as young people carried into dreamland, and then proceed to more specialized maps that spoke to us in particular ways. In Norment's case, he developed a notable career as an academic biologist,

but his real calling came from his love of hiking through the unspoiled wilderness. It all received encouragement when he pored over United States Geological Survey quadrangles. The climax came at age fifty-five when the avid map-reader headed into the Pasayten Wilderness of Washington state, ac-

*"...all of us travel, in different ways, through simultaneously mapped and mapless terrain."*

companied by a long-time friend, but without a map to guide them on a two-week quest to use Billy Goat Pass to reach Cathedral Peak and the boundary line with Canada.

Without a map they lost their way on day one but even-



Detail from Google Earth of the area to the north of Cathedral Peak, showing the amazingly accurate clear-cut national boundary



tually succeeded in reaching their destination by way of another route. Their real achievement, however, was to experience nature “with a heightened sensory and emotional awareness” (p. 206) without the “comfort and security of maps or the expectations they generate” (p. 201). The adventure as well as the memoir concluded with the realization that “all of us travel, in different ways, through simultaneously mapped and mapless terrain” (p. 233).

Reading the book will introduce one to more contemporary poets than scholars in the history of cartography and will appeal more to wilderness buffs than people who celebrate the city. Nevertheless, J. Brian Harley is cited as often as John Muir. Also, Norment’s spatial analysis of the urban neighborhoods of his early married life are told with a cartographic voice and a sensitivity to the way the built environment shapes us.

Maps have more power than simply providing pictures of selected aspects of the earth’s surface. Read with a discerning eye, the planet’s crust itself becomes a map. Norment’s account of the camping trip he took with his eighteen-year old daughter is instructive: “Down here, amidst the rock and seep willow, time is more than physics or psychology; it is something more palpable and elemental, a motion and a presence.” The scientist offers this context as he sketches a map of the trail leading from the floor of the Grand Canyon to reach its rim. The map is transformed into a timeline as well, tracking one-third of the world’s geological history. His map and his narration of this adventure are scaled in millions of years and then translated into the years of Lisa’s life. In other words, the author tends to see everything through a cartographic or historical lens.

For this reviewer, *In the Memory of the Map* could use more cartography and fewer details on Norment’s wilderness trips. At times the prose seems overwritten and the text under-mapped. But the book expresses in a concrete way a great idea, one we all could emulate. Readers will gather insights into the nature of maps, their social and psychological character, their advantages and power, and even their limitations and shortcomings. Listening carefully to his comments on maps, they will encounter new insights into the function of neat lines, the purposes of place names, and the dynamic between cartographic images and the worlds they reflect or create. In the end, those of us who appreciate maps will give them more respect as we sense their mysteries and understand their possibilities.

## Pocket Maps in Renaissance England—An Interview with Katarzyna Lecky, Newberry Fellow

By D. Bradford Hunt



*Kat Lecky, Assistant Professor of English at Bucknell University, was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities Long-Term Fellowship at the Newberry in 2015-16 to work on her book, tentatively titled “Pocket Empire: Portable Maps and Public Poetry, 1590-1649.” Her research shows how small “pocket” maps sold in Renaissance England influenced how poets thought about their landscape and nation.*

*Below is an exchange between Kat and D. Bradford Hunt, Vice President for Research and Academic Programs at the Newberry, about her work with the Newberry’s map collection.*

**DBH:** Tell me about pocket maps in Renaissance England. What size were they? How detailed? What purpose did they serve?

**KL:** The “pocket” maps I looked at for the book I am writing are octavo or smaller, in the parlance of book historians. The largest ones—the portable county atlases by George Humble, John Norden, Matthew Simmons, and others published in great numbers from the 1590s through the seventeenth century—are roughly the size of a standard paperback today; the smallest are decks of tiny cartographic playing cards. I focus on them because changing the scale of a map shifts the register of what it depicts. Renaissance monarchs like Queen Elizabeth I and King James I funded massive and magisterial maps depicting England as the realm of hereditary elites, and these are still prized for their



impressive ornamental beauty. But little pocket maps are different: these bare-bones artifacts empowered ordinary people to see the national landscape as the property of the many rather than the few. If we compare them with today's maps, we can get a good sense of their use-value. Think of the difference between a giant wall map of the U.S. and your smartphone's Google Maps app. The wall map gives an impression of the nation's grandeur, which is best taken in at a distance. The Google app places the national topography in your pocket, in ways that make it accessible, intimate, and yours to explore.

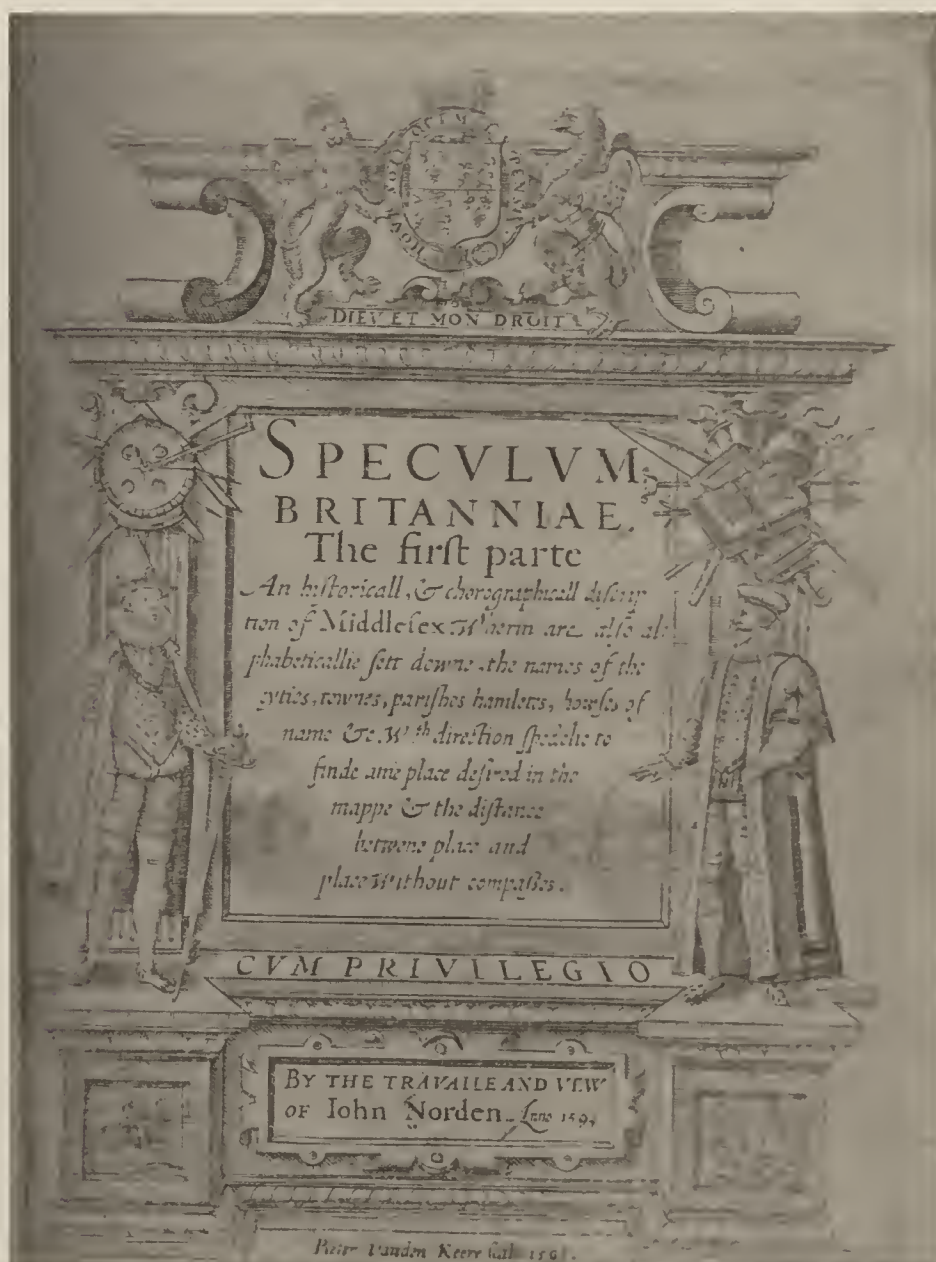
**DBH:** You earned a Ph.D. in English Literature at the University of Colorado, with an emphasis on Britain's poets. So, how did you start to connect poetry with pocket maps?

**KL:** It's true that I am an English professor rather than a cartographic historian, but the connection between poetry and maps is undeniable. Like maps, poems reveal the contours of human collectives in miniature: they are microcosmic charts of our relation to our place and the others who inhabit it. Both poems and maps reveal little worlds suffused with the potential to re-envision common topographies. My book picks up on decades of research showing that Renaissance perceptions of national identity were distinctly cartographic; but previous studies have concentrated on large statish maps depicting landscapes dominated by top-down systems of control. Turning instead to small-format cartography allows us to better understand how most people thought with maps in Renaissance England—as the vast majority of the population never saw (much less owned) a giant Saxton or Speed atlas, while almost anyone could afford small-format maps and atlases that cost little more than a domestic postage stamp.

English Renaissance authors like Edmund Spenser, Ben Jonson, and John Milton were members of this national collective, and they too thought with those ubiquitous little maps when they imagined nationhood. These professional poets all made a living writing for a public print sphere where small-format cartography sold briskly. Sometimes their poems emerged from the same workshop that printed little maps: Milton's *Paradise Lost* was the first poem produced by a printing house that dominated London's trade in pocket atlases. Small-format maps uncover the inclusive cartographic imagination of Renaissance poets who, despite being paid by monarchs and magistrates, still thought of England as a commonwealth rather than a Crown holding.

**DBH:** Is there a favorite pocket map at the Newberry?

**KL:** I'll narrow it down to two. The first one is the library's copy (bound in limp vellum) of Norden's popular 1593 pocket map of Shakespeare's London, which undoubtedly helped many an out-of-towner find the theatres where his plays were performed.<sup>1</sup> The second is a copy of Thomas Jenner's *A Book of the Names of all the Hundreds* (164[9]), held by Roger Baskes in his private collection, much of which he has already donated to the Newberry.<sup>2</sup> The Jenner, a battered and marked-up pocket atlas about the size of my iPhone, exemplifies how these artifacts grant us access to how popular reading publics viewed their nation; it also testifies to the Newberry's close relationship with a cartographic-minded community that exceeds the bounds of academe to include map enthusiasts and non-specialists. As Roger and I together burrowed into his private archive, our



John Norden, *Speculum Britanniae. The first parte: an historical & chorographical description of Middlesex ... by the travaile and vew of Iohn Norden.* (London: 1593), The Newberry Library, Case G 45004.6.



mutual delight in these little maps reminded me how print cultures from the Renaissance still bring people together in ways that undermine social hierarchies and offer revolutionary possibilities for thinking about collective identity in its most inclusive and accommodative sense.

**DBH:** How useful was your fellowship at the Newberry in your map research?

**KL:** My Newberry fellowship was essential to my research, and my book would have not been possible without it. The Newberry holds over 5,000 early maps produced before 1850, including numerous examples of English pocket maps. The Newberry also holds a significant number of the English Renaissance poetic prints I study, and it offers a collegial interdisciplinary environment unlike any other I have encountered in numerous archives across the U.S. and U.K. Nearly every day, I shared formal and informal conversa-

tions with other Newberry Fellows that shaped our work, and the staff was unparalleled in its dedication to helping us optimize Newberry resources. Jim Akerman even took me into the vault, where we thumbed through some truly fascinating cartographic materials—an unforgettable experience!

## Notes

<sup>1</sup> Norden, John. *Speculum Britanniae. The first parte: an historickall & chorographickall discription of Middlesex ... by the travaile and vew of Iohn Norden.* (London: 1593). Newberry Library Case G 45004.6;

<sup>2</sup> Jenner, Thomas. *A booke of the names of all the hundreds contained in the shires of the kingdom of England...* (London: 164[4]). Newberry Library VAULT Baskes DA640 .B66 1644;



Norden, *Speculum Britanniae*..



# The 2017 Arthur Holzheimer Maps and America Lecture Series: “Flows of Illusion: Waterways to the Pacific”

By Wilbert Stroeve & Robert A. Holland

Christopher Lane, owner of the Philadelphia Print Shop West and an appraiser on the Antiques Roadshow, gave the twenty-eighth presentation of *Maps and America: The Arthur Holzheimer Lecture Series* at the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee on 13 April 2017. His talk, “Flows of Illusion: Waterways to the Pacific,” explored the obsession of many European rulers, explorers and geographers who, like Christopher Columbus, hoped to find a Western water route to the riches of the “Orient.” Early in the sixteenth century, the explorations of Magellan and others made it clear that South and Central America were effective roadblocks to such a route, and so a search began for a waterway around or through North America. As Mr. Lane put it, this would become an “idée fixe” in Europe for nearly three centuries, a period that saw many such routes touted, all of

which would prove to be mere “flows of illusion.”

Given the Europeans’ desire to find a water route across North America and their lack of knowledge of the interior of the continent, Mr. Lane suggested that it is not surprising to find that numerous “flows of illusion” began to appear in the American interior—that is, that non-existent seas, lakes and rivers were conjectured as water routes across the continent. What were the sources of these conjectures? There were many: some were based on misread or misinterpreted reports of explorers or missionaries; others on Indian accounts, which for one reason or another were misconstrued to indicate the existence of such a route across the continent; still others simply represented false reports—either in the form of hoaxes or tall tales—“masquerading as first-hand reports.” Whatever the source, most of these routes



Sebastian Münster. *Novae Insulae XVII Nova Tabula* (Basel: 1540), David Rumsey Historical Map Collection, 11623.000.



would find their way on to maps.

Mr. Lane's lecture focused on these "geographic illusions," which allowed him to unravel a complex and often multi-faceted history. He began with Münster's depiction of the "Sea of Verrazano" on his 1540 map of the Western Hemisphere, which is illustrated on page 9. Here we have, at best, a blatant example of wishful thinking. Giovanni da Verrazano, who had been sent by the French king to explore the area north of Spanish Florida in search of a passage to the Pacific, claimed to have observed an "open sea" west of the outer banks of the Carolinas and reported to King Francis that it was the "oriental sea . . . which is the one, without doubt, which goes about the extremity of India, China and Cathay." John Dee's 1582 *A General Map of the Arctic Regions showing parts of North America*, contains a summary of various possible waterways that were imagined to cross North America at the time, not the least of which was one that proceeded up the St. Lawrence River. This route spurred French exploration, which led to the discovery of the Great Lakes and the existence of a "great river" that had been gleaned from Indian accounts and was hoped to lead to the Pacific. The Mississippi River did not, but perhaps the Missouri did; maps by Sanson, Le Clerc and De L'Isle depict the hopes the French had for these rivers.

Mr. Lane next examined the cartographic representations of a series of water routes that the French hoped would lead them to the Pacific, including the Sea of the West (in two guises), de la Hontan's "Rivière Longue," the River of the West, and the "Belle Rivière." He also noted that Antonio Zatta's 1776 map, *Nuove Scoperte De' Russi al Nord del Mare del Sud si nell'Asia, che nell'America*, nicely summarized some of the "various theories floating around at the time"—theories that would be inherited by the British at the end of the eighteenth century, when they gained control of the French territories in North America.

The British quest for a waterway to the Pacific was largely based on French information, which they used in the production of their own maps of North America. Neither the British nor French, however, grasped the fact that the Rocky Mountain range extended 3000 miles in a contiguous fashion from British Columbia to New Mexico; this is evident on a 1794 British map by John Russell: *A General Map of North America* shows a gap in the mountain range that allowed for a river to flow from near the Great Lakes to the Pacific Ocean. By the turn of the century, the extent of the Rockies was better appreciated, but this did not dash hopes for a practical water route to the Pacific Ocean. To accommodate a continuous ridge of mountains, the idea of such a route would simply need to be modified: it "would have to follow a river—probably the Missouri—to its headwaters

in the Rockies, cross over the mountains and then take a shortened River of the West to the sea."

This, Mr. Lane noted, was precisely what Thomas Jefferson had in mind when he commissioned the 1804 expedition by Lewis and Clark—that is, to determine whether such a route existed. And, the 1802 British chart by Arrowsmith titled *A Map exhibiting all the new discoveries of the interior parts of North America* neatly illustrates this idea; moreover, Arrowsmith had based his rendering on native sources—a map drawn by the Blackfoot chief named "The Feathers." Lewis and Clark soon discovered, however, that the geography of the connection between the Missouri and the Columbia River system is much more challenging than shown on the Arrowsmith map; indeed, their expedition demonstrated that there was no practical water route to the Pacific via the Missouri River.

A couple of years later, an expedition led by Zebulon Pike established that the Rockies presented an equally formidable barrier to any practical water route further south. Mr. Lane observed that this change in the geographic understanding of the American West is illustrated by the difference between Arrowsmith's 1802 map and an updated version issued twelve years later, which reveals that "the notion of an easy water route to the Pacific from the middle of the country seems naïve."

There remained but one possibility: perhaps a River of the West could be found in The Great Basin, an area west of the Rockies and just south of the area explored by Lewis and Clark. Maps by Melish and Tanner would promote the "Rio Buenaventura" as a possible waterway to the Pacific through this region. But, in his 1839 *Map of the United States*, David Burr shows that there could be no significant River of the West south of the Columbia River system and north of the Colorado River system—a demonstration based on the work of Jedediah Smith, the famous mountain man who first explored the Great Basin. The myth of a "River of the West" was finally put to rest by John Frémont, who in effect circled The Great Basin in 1843-44, and his 1845 map of these explorations (*Map of an Exploring Expedition to the Rocky Mountains*) clearly shows a ring of mountains preventing any rivers from flowing to the Pacific from the western slope of the Rockies through this region.

There is much that has been left out in this summary of Mr. Lane's excellent talk, which we hope to see in published form soon.



# Smith Center News

## Fiftieth Anniversary Nebenzahl Lectures

Late October and early November 2016 were memorable to many Chicagoans—at least those with a preference for the Northside baseball team—for the historic World Series victory by the Chicago Cubs, 108 years after their last such title in 1908. While this was going on, the Smith Center and the Newberry were celebrating another impressive anniversary, a half-century in the making, namely the Fiftieth Anniversary Nebenzahl Lectures, or more officially the Nineteenth Kenneth Nebenzahl, Jr. Lectures in the History of Cartography.

The theme of this installment of the renowned lecture series was titled “Maps, Their Collecting and Study: A Fifty-Year Retrospective.” Besides honoring the many contributions to historical map scholarship that the previous eighteen series had made, the theme reacted specifically to the similarly named and themed first series, “The Study and Collecting of Early Maps: A Historical Survey,” whose four lectures were given in autumn 1966 by Raleigh Ashlin (Peter) Skelton, Keeper of the Map Room at the British Library. Skelton gave his lectures at the invitation of The Newberry’s President and Librarian, Lawrence W. Towner. During his visit Skelton also conducted a survey and assessment of the Newberry’s map collection. Skelton’s report on his findings guided the further development of the library’s map collection for decades, and led to the foundation of the



2016 Nebenzahl Lecture speakers and friends:  
From left. Front row: Ken Nebenzahl, Jossy Nebenzahl, Rosalind Woodward, Peter Barber, Susan Schulten  
Back row: Richard Pegg, Peter Nekola, Matthew Edney, Jim Akerman, Tony Campbell, David Buisseret

Smith Center in 1971, under its first Director, David Woodward. The impact of the Nebenzahl Lectures, however, has been felt far beyond the Newberry. Building on its initial success in 1996, the series has been held every two or three years since, with constantly changing themes, promoting the expansion of publication and scholarly interest in the history of cartography across many fields.

As always, the Lectures were made possible through the generous support of their founders, Ken and Jossy Nebenzahl. The lectures, six in number, were presented from Thursday evening, October 27 through Saturday morning, October 29. More than 200 guests attended the three days of the lectures. The complete program of speakers, who are preparing their lectures for publication was, as follows:

“Of Maps, Libraries, and Lectures,” keynote lecture  
Matthew Edney, University of Southern Maine

“George III as a Map Collector”  
Peter Barber, The British Library

“How Did Old Maps Become Valuable?”  
Susan Schulten, University of Denver

“Collecting and Studying East Asian Maps in the United States and Europe”  
Richard Pegg, MacLean Collection

“Maps, Marginalia, and Ephemera”  
James Akerman, The Newberry Library

“The Atlas as a Way of Thinking”  
Peter Nekola, The Newberry Library

## Newberry Hosts IMCoS for the Second Time

The Nebenzahl Lectures were an ideal complement to the 34th Annual Symposium of the International Map Collectors Society (IMCoS), which was organized at the Newberry from Monday, October 24 – Wednesday, October 26, so that IMCoS members might conveniently attend both events. The theme for the symposium was “Private Map Collecting and Public Map Collections in the United States.” On Tuesday morning, October 25, a roundtable featured papers examining the role that private map collectors played in the creation and development of major public historical map collections throughout the United States over the past century. The presenters were the curators and staff of five renowned research map collections: Brian Dunnigan (William L. Clements Library, University of Michigan), Ian Fowler



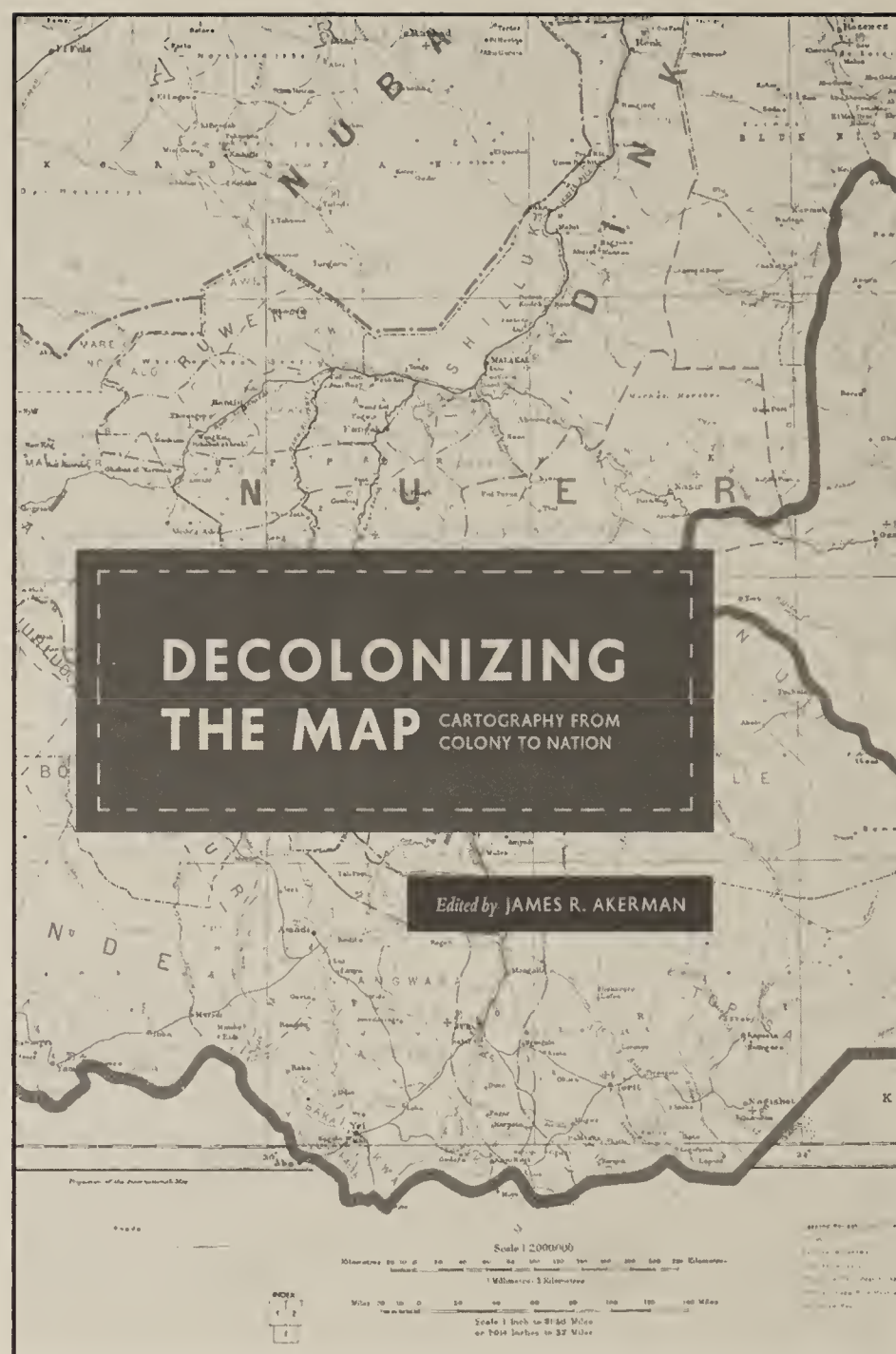
(Osher Map Library and Smith Center for Cartographic Education, University of Southern Maine), Stephanie Cyr (Norman Leventhal Map Center, Boston Public Library), Ben Huseman (Virginia Garrett Cartographic History Library, University of Texas at Arlington) and Julie Sweetkind-Singer (Branner Earth Sciences Library and Map Collections, Stanford University). In the afternoon additional papers by G. Salim Mohammed (Digital and Rare Maps Librarian for Stanford University Libraries) and Lucia Lovison-Golob (Afriterrra Foundation, Boston) dealt with digital map collecting and the use of remote sensing in historical map interpretation. James Akerman, Robert W. Karrow, Jr. and Peter Nekola followed with a presentation on the history of map collecting at the Newberry Library. Christopher Lane (Philadelphia Print Shop West) closed the day with a lecture on “Shaping the American West.” That evening the symposium moved to Chicago’s Adler Planetarium for the annual banquet, where the group was treated to a spectacular sky show and an opportunity to wander through the planetarium’s galleries. On Wednesday, October 26 symposium participants traveled to the campus of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, where the staff of the American Geographical Society Library prepared an exhibition of the library’s map treasures, followed by a light lunch and lecture. On the way back to Chicago the group visited the spectacular MacLean Collection, in Chicago’s northern suburbs.

### Publication of *Decolonizing the Map*

The Smith Center is pleased to announce the publication in June 2017 of *Decolonizing the Map: Cartography from Colony to Nation* by the University of Chicago Press. The eight essays collected in the volume were originally presented at the Seventeenth Kenneth Nebenzahl, Jr. Lectures in the History of Cartography, in 2010. The book has been edited by center director James R Akerman, with contributed chapters by Raymond B. Craib, Magali Carrera, Lina del Castillo, Jordana Dym, Jamie McGowan, Karen Culcasi, Sumathi Ramaswamy, and Thomas J. Bassett. Their insights range across four continents and three centuries, considering the roles mapping has played in the passage from colony to nation—or, if you will, from dependent to independent state—in the realms of art, literature, popular culture, travel, surveying, commercial cartography, governance, diplomacy, and military operations.

### “Mapping, Text, and Travel” Summer Seminar

From July 11 to August 12, 2016, the Smith Center welcomed fourteen college and university faculty and two grad-



uate students to the Newberry to participate in a five-week seminar that examined the interplay between mapping and the history and literary culture of travel from the fifteenth through the twentieth centuries. “Mapping, Text, and Travel” was supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities and was co-organized by Center Director Jim Akerman and Dr. Jordana Dym, Professor of History and Director of the John B. Moore Documentary Studies Collaborative at Skidmore College. The seminar considered the relationship between mapping, wayfinding, describing, and narrating the experience of travel as manifested in the Newberry’s extensive collections of maps, atlases, guidebooks, travel narratives, and travel fiction. The seminar embraced a broad geographical and chronological focus on the Atlantic World, including mapping associations with exploratory and personal travel accounts, pilgrimage, guidebook publication, fictional travel, maritime navigation, scientific and diplomatic travel, and modern tourism. The participants represented fifteen institutions and the fields of



Architecture, English, Film and Media Studies, French, Geography, Geoscience, History, Mexican American Studies, Popular Culture, and Spanish. “Mapping, Text, and Travel” is the fifteenth NEH-sponsored summer seminar or institute for college faculty or schoolteachers that the Smith Center has organized since 1980.

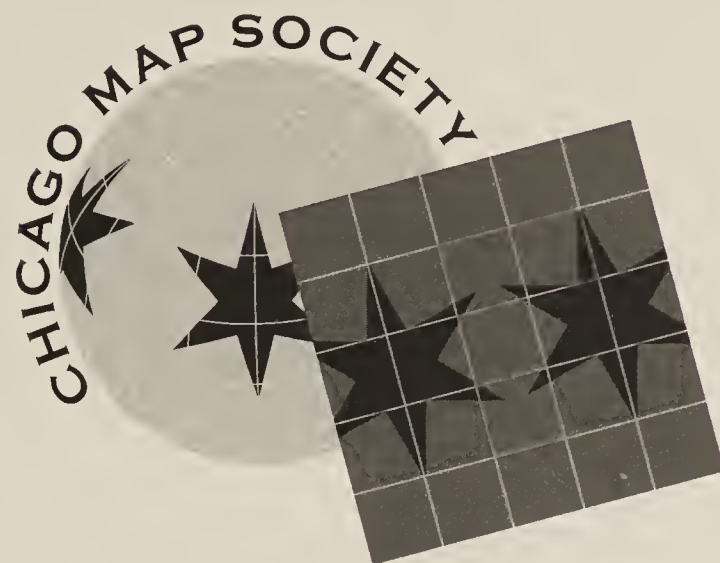
### **Fellows and Scholars in Residence, 2016 and 2017**

Each year the Newberry Library awards one or two Arthur and Janet Holzheimer Fellowships in the History of Cartography. These short-term fellowships, generously supported by Mr. and Mrs. Holzheimer, are generally one month in length, and are open to PhD candidates or postdoctoral scholars for work in the history of cartography, or which focus on cartographic materials in the Newberry’s collection. Further information about these and other research fellowships offered by the Newberry Library may be found on the Newberry’s website at <https://www.newberry.org/fellowships>.

In 2016, Holzheimer Fellowships were awarded to Joseph Otto (Ph.D. Candidate, History, University of Oklahoma) for his project “Plumbing the Prairies: Water Management in the Agricultural Midwest” and to Elizabeth Schwab (Ph.D. Candidate, Literature, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Germany) for “Descriptions of Rome in the 14th to 16th Centuries: Antiquarian Practices in the Humanist Literature.” The 2017 awards will go to Emiro Filadelfo Martinez-Osorio (Associate Professor, Literature, York University, Ontario), who will be working on “The Mapping of New Granada by cacique Diego de Torres,” and Carme Montaner (Researcher, Geography, Universitat de Barcelona, Spain) for her studies of “The Maps of the Peruvian Amazon made by the Franciscans in the Second Half of the 18th Century and Their Contribution to the Later Printed Maps of South America.”

In 2016-17 we also welcomed two long-term scholars-in-residence drawn to the Newberry by its extensive holdings in the history and mapping of travel. Greg Rohe (Department of Global English, Aichi Gakuin University, Japan) left the Newberry in April, after a residence of nearly a year working on the comparative history of American and Japanese travel maps and guidebooks. Karen Lewis (Architecture, Ohio State University) arrived in December 2016 to continue work on a contemplative graphic, historical, textual, and architectural atlas of the Oregon Trail and its ongoing interpretation. Dr. Lewis was also a participant in last summer’s NEH seminar, “Mapping, Text, and Travel.”

## **A New Logo for the Chicago Map Society**



The Chicago Map Society recently held a contest for a new logo design, and we are pleased to announce that the winning entry was submitted by Dennis McClendon of Chicago CartoGraphics. Dennis explains the rationale for the design as follows:

I worked through a number of variations while arriving at my submission, including some that placed a traditional-looking “map border” on the rectangular representation. However, I decided that a simple approach was the best; one that used Chicago stars to represent the essence of putting the features of the spherical earth onto a flat surface. The copperplate typeface is a nod to traditional mapmaking and the historical/antiquarian origins and interests of the Chicago Map Society.

Our thanks to all of those who submitted entries.

## **New Acquisitions**

Tracking how old maps were actually used during their useful lifetimes is difficult. Most maps used by travelers, for example, are either mangled or destroyed in the process, or discarded when the traveler no longer needs them. And so, when maps come along that have been marked up and preserved by their first owners, we are all the more excited to see them. Such was our reaction when three heavily annotated maps once owned by a traveling coffee salesman came to light last year. The maps, published by Rand McNally as part of its popular pocket map series for travelers, were once owned by M. P. McWhinney, who worked for the Dayton Spice Mills Company, in Dayton, Ohio. Dayton Spice Mills, now defunct, sold spices and the “Jersey” brand of



coffee. We know these are Mr. McWhinney's maps and surmise that he used them on his travels because he took care to mark his return address on the front cover of them, in case he accidentally left them behind. On the maps, he has marked several hundred places in Illinois, eastern Missouri, and southern Michigan. Whether he actually visited these hundreds of small towns and villages and a few larger cities, or whether these marks chart out planned visits, we cannot know. Either way they offer a glimpse of the itinerant life of a salesman at the turn of the twentieth century and of the role railroads and maps played in this storied—one thinks of the opening song in *The Music Man*—but largely obsolete form of sales and marketing.



An example of one of Mr. McWhinney's maps: Rand McNally's *Southern Portion of Michigan* (Chicago: 1890).

Other notable recent additions to the Newberry's map collections in 2016-17 include:

- Fowler's *New map of the Hudson River* (Albany, 1830?)
- William P. Flynn, *Official Map, Custer County, Montana*

(Miles City, Mont., 1903)

- Jacques-Fabien Gautier d'Agoty, *Cartes en Couleur des lieux sujets aux tremblements de terre and toutes les parties du monde selon le sisteme de l'impulsion solaire*. (Paris, Chez 'auteur Rue de la Harpe, 1756)
- Georg August von Breitenbach, *Vorstellung der Schauplätze berühmter Begebenheiten aus der Geschichte der vornehmsten Völker des Alterthums*. (Leipzig, 1794)
- Ensign, Fanning, and Bridgman, *Railroad and Sectional Map of Illinois* (New York, 1858), the gift of Le Roy Blommaert

## Baskes Collection

Over the past two decades the Newberry, its readers, and the history of cartography community have benefited from the ongoing donation by Roger Baskes of his massive collection of atlases, travel guidebooks, geographical texts, and rare books to the Newberry. Mr. Baskes has compiled this collection, now numbering more than 19,000 items since the late 1980s, and rather unusually, almost from the start with the Newberry in mind as its eventual recipient. The collection has arrived in regular installments, so that the library's Collection Services staff is able to keep up with cataloging the books as they come in. Roger and his wife Julie have generously provided the funding that allows us to keep the catalogers busy. Between July 2015 and June 2016, additions to the Newberry's Roger Baskes Collection included more than 1500 items. Highlights among these include:

- Nicolas de Fer, *Atlas Royal* (Paris, 1697)
- Tomas Lopez de Vargas Machuca, *Atlas Elemento Moderno* (Madrid, 1792)
- Robert Morden, *New description and state of England: containing the mapps of the counties of England and Wales* (London, 1701)
- Johann Ulrich Müller, *Geographia Totius Orbis Compendaria* (Ulm, 1692)
- John Senex, *The roads through England delineated, or, Ogilby's survey: revised, improved, and reduced* (London, 1759).



# Map Talk

In the spring of 1834, not a single map of Illinois was in existence that deserved the least character for accuracy. At the period of publication of the Map of Illinois, Missouri, and Arkansas, taken from the surveys by E. Brown and E. Barcroft in 1825, but a little more than half of Illinois had been surveyed, and many inaccuracies were made in the locations of towns, the names of streams, and many other particulars. The same difficulty existed in all the "Pocket" and "Traveler's" Maps issued by the publishers in eastern cities. Not one was accurate. The writer felt that the state was sustaining an injury from the very defective and inaccurate means of information usually found on the maps. Obtaining the assistance of John Messinger, Esq., an old settler of St. Clair county, a surveyor and mathematician ... he made a small pocket map, with the township lines drawn according to the surveys, and the towns and roads located where they should be. In performing this work he struck off about one third of the towns that appeared on other maps, but which had no real existence. They had been laid off in an early day of town speculation, had obtained a place on the maps, by those who were interested therein, but never were inhabited. The sites of some of these paper towns could not now be found without the aid of a surveyor and his compass. While in New York, the writer became acquainted with the publisher of this work, J. H. Colton, Esq., who was engaged in publishing a new map of Michigan with the sectional lines and other marks pertaining to the land surveys, and was solicited to undertake the execution of a map of Illinois on a similar plan. Associated with Mr. Messinger, the work was completed in the spring of 1836...

In placing town sites on the map, the compilers desired to be impartial and correct, that speculators in town sites and "fancy" cities might take no advantage. Hence they adopted a general principle, to place no town on the map unless it actually contained six dwelling-houses including stores, and as many families. County seats legally established, rail-road depots, and post offices were exceptions. It was soon discovered that this rule had been violated by the impertinent interference of interested speculators, or their agents, who in some instances, urged the claims of their 'splendid' towns, at the publishing office in New York, as important business

points, and thus a number of towns obtained a locality and name on the map, which had no other existence than that given to it by the surveyor and the lithographic printer. These have been erased in an improved edition. Persons who have town sites which they desire to have placed on the map, and which possess the requisite number of families, would do well to correspond with the compiler, and furnish him with accurate information of the locality and progress of their towns.

Those persons who have examined a book published by S. Augustus Mitchell, of Philadelphia, entitled, "Illinois in 1837, with a Map," will find portions of that work copied into this. Nearly three-fourths of the pages of the book were unwarrantably and illegally taken from the author's "Guide for Emigrants," and his "Gazetteer of Illinois,"—the fruits of his own industry, from his own researches, and of which either he or his publishers held the copy-rights. He has taken the opportunity of reclaiming his own property.

## From:

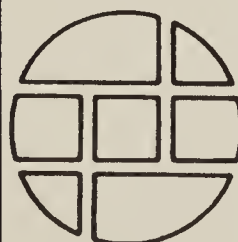
J. M. Peck. *The Traveler's Directory for Illinois; containing accurate sketches of the state—a particular description of each county, and important business towns—a list of the principal roads, stage, and steamboat routes, land offices, tracts of land unoccupied—a description of the timbered and prairie portions of the state; the rivers, minerals, animals, internal improvements, climate and seasons—with much other original and valuable information for the traveler, the emigrant, the man of business, and the citizen. The whole is intended as a companion to the new sectional map of Illinois.* By J. M. Peck, of Rock Springs, Ill., author of a "New Guide to Emigrants," "Gazetteer of Illinois," &c. &c. New York: J. H. Colton, No. 124 Broadway, 1839 (The Newberry Library, Graff 3237), pp. 7-10.



**The Chicago Map Society** is the oldest map society in North America, and has held monthly meetings at The Newberry since 1976. We typically meet the third Thursday of every month during the academic year (September through June). Meetings start at 5:30 p.m. with a social

half-hour, followed by an hour presentation on a cartographic subject of interest to our membership.

**President:** Robert A. Holland



**The Hermon Dunlap Smith Center for the History of Cartography** was founded in 1972 to advance knowledge of the history of cartography and to promote the use of the Newberry's cartographic collections. Among the many programs it sponsors to achieve these goals are institutes and seminars, research fellowships, exhibitions, workshops for educators and public historians, public lecture series, and a variety of print and electronic publications.

**Director:** James R. Akerman



First issued in 1976, *Mapline* is co-published by the Hermon Dunlap Smith Center for the History of Cartography and the Chicago Map Society, both of which are housed at The Newberry in Chicago. *Mapline* serves to keep its readers informed of each organization's work, including their publications and sponsored events. More generally, *Mapline* is devoted to advancing knowledge of the history of cartography by reporting events, ideas, and issues in the field. In addition to printing short articles reflecting current research, it functions as a bulletin to announce recent acquisitions to the cartographic collections at The Newberry. It also contains brief reports on conferences, exhibitions, societies, and lectures beyond the Newberry.

Editorial Board: James R. Akerman, David Buisseret, Gerald A. Danzer, Robert Holland, D. Bradford Hunt, Meghan McCloud, and Wilbert Stroeve

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